

RET

To RETRIBUTE. *v. a.* [*retribuo*, Lat. *retribuere*, Fr.] To pay back; to make repayment of.

Both the will and power to serve him are his upon so many scores, that we are unable to *retribute*, unless we do restore; and all the duties we can pay out maker are less properly, requitals than restitutions. *Boyle.*

In the state of nature, a man comes by no arbitrary power to use a criminal, but only to *retribute* to him, so far as calm reason and conscience dictate, what is proportionate to his transgression. *Locke.*

RETRIBUTION. *n. f.* [*retribution*, Fr. from *retribuere*.] Repayment; return accommodated to the action.

The king thought he had not remunerated his people sufficiently with good laws, which evermore was his *retribution* for treasure. *Bacon's Henry VII.*

All who have their reward on earth, the fruits

Of painful superstition, and blind zeal,

Nought seeking but the praise of men, here find

Fit *retributions*, empty as their deeds. *Milton's Par. Lost.*

In good offices and due *retributions*, we may not be pinching

and niggardly: it argues an ignoble mind, where we have

wronged to higgledy and dodge in the amends. *Hall.*

There is no nation, though plunged into never such gross

idolatry, but has some awful sense of a deity, and a persuasion

of a state of *retribution* to men after this life. *Saunders.*

It is a strong argument for a state of *retribution* hereafter,

that in this world virtuous persons are very often unfortunate,

and vicious persons prosperous. *Addison's Spectator.*

RETRIBUTORY. *adj.* [from *retribuere*.] Repaying; making

RETRIBUTIVE. *adj.* repayment.

Something strangely *retributive* is working. *Clarissa.*

RETRIEVABLE. *adj.* [from *retrieve*.] That may be retrieved.

To RETRIEVE. *v. a.* [*retrahere*, Fr.]

1. To recover; to restore.

By this conduct we may *retrieve* the publick credit of religion,

reform the example of the age, and lessen the danger

we complain of. *Rogers's Sermons.*

2. To repair.

O reason! once again to thee I call;

Accept my sorrow, and *retrieve* my fall. *Prior.*

3. To regain.

With late repentance now they would *retrieve*

The bodies they forsook, and wish to live. *Dryden.*

Philomela's liberty *retriev'd*,

Cheers her sad soul. *Philips.*

4. To recall; to bring back.

If one, like the old Latin poets, came among them, it would

be a means to *retrieve* them from their cold trivial conceits,

to an imitation of their predecessors. *Berkeley to Pope.*

RETROCESSION. *n. f.* [*retrocession*, Lat.] The act of going

back.

RETROCUPLATION. *n. f.* [*retro* and *cupulation*.] Post-coition.

From the nature of this position, there ensueth a necessity

of *retrocupulation*. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*

RETROGRADATION. *n. f.* [*retrogradatio*, Fr. from *retrogradere*.]

The act of going backward.

As for the revolutions, stations, and *retrogradations* of the

planets, observed constantly in most certain periods of time,

sufficiently demonstrates, that their motions are governed by

council. *Ray on the Creation.*

RETROGRADE. *adj.* [*retrograde*, Fr. *retro* and *gradus*, Lat.]

1. Going backward.

Princes, if they use ambitious men, should handle it so,

as they be still progressive, and not *retrograde*. *Bacon.*

2. Contrary; opposite.

Your intent

In going back to school to Wittenberg,

Is most *retrograde* to our desire. *Shakspeare's Hamlet.*

3. In astronomy, planets are *retrograde*, when by their proper

motion in the zodiac, they move backward, and contrary

to the succession of the signs; as from the second degree

of Aries to the first: but this retrogradation is only apparent

and occasioned by the observer's eye being placed on the

earth; for to an eye at the sun, the planet will appear always

direct, and never either stationary or *retrograde*. *Harris.*

Their wand'ring course, now high, now low, then hid,

Progressive, *retrograde*, or standing still,

In fix thou see'st. *Shakspeare's Paradise Lost.*

Two geomantick figures were display'd;

One when direct, and one when *retrograde*. *Dryden.*

To RETROGRADE. *v. n.* [*retrogradere*, Fr. *retro* and *gradus*, Lat.]

Lat.] To go backward.

The race and period of all things here is to turn things

more pneumatical and rare, and not to *retrograde* from pneu-

matical to that which is dense. *Bacon.*

RETROGRESSION. *n. f.* [*retro* and *gressus*, Lat.] The act of

going backwards.

The account, established upon the rise and descent of the

stars, can be no reasonable rule unto distant nations; and by

reason of their *retrogression*, but temporary unto any one. *Brown.*

RETROMINGENCY. *n. f.* [*retro* and *mingere*, Lat.] The quality

of staling backwards.

The last foundation was *retromingency*, or pissing back-

wards; for men observing both sexes to urine backwards, or

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averly between their legs, they might conceive there were feminine parts in both. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*

RETROMINGENT. *adj.* [*retro* and *mingere*, Lat.] Staling backward.

By reason of the backward position of the feminine parts

of quadrupeds, they can hardly admit the substitution of masculine

generations, except it be in *retromingents*. *Brown.*

RETROSPECT. *n. f.* [*retro* and *specto*, Lat.] Look thrown

upon things behind of things past.

As you arraign his majesty by *retrospect*, so you condemn

his government by second sight. *Addison's Freeholder*, No 9.

RETROSPECTION. *n. f.* [from *retrospect*.] Act or faculty of

looking backwards.

Can it thou take delight in viewing

This poor life's approaching ruin,

When thy *retrospection* vast

Sees the glorious ages past?

Happy nation were we blind,

Or had only eyes behind. *Swift.*

RETROSPECTIVE. *adj.* [from *retrospect*.] Looking backwards.

In vain the grave, with *retrospective* eye,

Would from the apparent what conclude the why. *Pope.*

To RETURN. *v. a.* [*retrundo*, Lat.] To blunt; to turn,

Covered with skin and hair keeps it warm, being naturally

a very cold part, and also to quench and dissipate the force of

any stroke that shall be dealt it, and *retund* the edge of any

weapon. *Ray on the Creation.*

To RETURN. *v. n.* [*retrahere*, Fr.]

1. To come to the same place.

Return, my son David, for I will do thee no harm. *1 Sam.*

Who so rolleth a stone, it will *return* upon him. *Prov. xxvi.*

Go, *return* on thy way to the wilderness. *1 Kings xix. 15.*

2. To come back to the same state.

The waters *returned* from off the earth continually. *Gen.*

Judgment shall *return* unto righteousness. *Psal. xciv. 15.*

In *returning* and rest shall ye be saved. *Isaiah xxx. 15.*

On their embattel'd ranks the waves *return*. *Milton.*

If they *returned* out of bondage, it must be into a state of

freedom. *Locke.*

3. To go back.

I am in blood

Stept in so far, that should I wade no more,

Returning were as tedious as go o'er. *Shakspeare's Macbeth.*

Hezekiah sent to the king of Assyria, saying, I have of-

fended, *return* from me. *2 Kings xviii. 14.*

To *return* to the business in hand, the use of a little in-

sight in those parts of knowledge, is to accustom our minds

to all sorts of ideas. *Locke.*

4. To make answer.

The thing of courage,

As rouz'd with rage, with rage doth sympathize;

And with an accent tun'd in self false key,

Returns to chiding fortune. *Shakspeare's Troil. and Cressida.*

He said; and thus the queen of heaven *return'd*;

Mist I, oh Jove in bloody wars contend! *Pope.*

5. To come back; to come again; to revilit.

Thou to mankind

Be good, and friendly still, and oft *return*. *Milton.*

6. After a periodical revolution, to begin the same again.

With the year

Seasons *return*, but not to me *return*

Days, or the sweet approach of ev'n or morn. *Milton.*

7. To return; to recriminate.

If you are a malicious reader, you *return* upon me, that I

affected to be thought more impartial than I am. *Dryden.*

To RETURN. *v. a.*

1. To repay; to give in requital.

Return him a trespass offering. *1 Sam. vi. 3.*

Thy Lord shall *return* thy wickedness upon thine own

head. *1 Kings ii. 44.*

What peace can we *return*,

But to our power, hostility, and hate. *Milton.*

When answer none *return'd*, I let me down. *Milton.*

2. To give back.

What counsel give ye to *return* answer to this people. *2 Chr.*

3. To send back.

Reject not then what offer'd means, who knows

But God hath set before us, to *return* thee

Home to thy country and his sacred house. *Milton's Agon.*

4. To give account of.

Probably one fourth part more died of the plague than are

returned. *Graunt's Bills of Mortality.*

5. To transmit.

Instead of a ship, he should levy money, and *return* the

same to the treasurer for his majesty's use. *Clarendon.*

RETURN. *n. f.* [from the verb.]

1. Act of coming back to the same place.

The king of France so suddenly gone back!

Something since his coming forth is thought of.

That his *return* was now most necessary. *Shakspeare.*

When forc'd from hence to view our parts he mourns;

Takes little journeys, and makes quick *return*. *Dryden.*

2. Retrogression.

3. Ad

REV

3. Act of coming back to the same state.

At the *return* of the year, the king of Syria will come up. *1 Kings xx. 22.*

4. Revolution; vicissitude.

Weapons hardly fall under rule; yet even they have *returns*

and vicissitudes; for ordnance was known in the city of the

Oxidrares in India, and is what the Macedonians called

thunder and lightning. *Bacon's Essays.*

5. Repayment of money laid out in commodities for sale.

As for any merchandize you have bought, ye shall have

your *return* in merchandize or gold. *Bacon.*

As to roots accelerated in their ripening, there is the high

price that those things bear, and the swiftness of their *return*;

for, in some grounds, a radish comes in a month, that in others

will not come in two, and so make double *returns*. *Bacon.*

6. Profit; advantage.

The fruits, from many days of recreation, is very little;

but from these few hours we spend in prayer, the *return* is

great. *Taylor's Rule of Living Holy.*

7. Remittance; payment from a distant place.

Within these two months, I do expect *return*

Of thrice three times the value of this bond. *Shakspeare.*

Brokers cannot have less money by them, than one twen-

tieth part of their yearly *return*. *Locke.*

8. Repayment; retribution; requital.

You made my liberty your late request,

Is no *return* due from a grateful breast?

I grow impatient, 'till I find some way; *Dryden.*

Great offices, with greater to repay.

Since these are some of the *returns* which we made to God

after obtaining our successes, can we reasonably presume, that

we are in the favour of God? *Atterbury.*

Nothing better becomes a person in a publick character,

than such a publick spirit; nor is there any thing likely to

procure him larger *returns* of esteem. *Atterbury.*

Returns, like these, our mistress bids us make,

When from a foreign prince a gift her Britons take. *Prior.*

Ungrateful lord!

Wouldst thou invade my life, as a *return*

For proffer'd love? *Rowe.*

9. Act of restoring or giving back; restitution.

The other ground of God's sole property in any thing, is

the gift, or rather the *return* of it made by man to God. *Saunders.*

10. Relapse.

This is breaking into a constitution to serve a present ex-

pedient; the remedy of an empirick, to stifle the present

pain, but with certain prospect of sudden *returns*. *Swift.*

11. [Return, Fr.]

Either of the adjoining sides of the front of an house, or

ground-plot, is called a *return* side. *Moxon's Mech. Exerc.*

Both these sides are not only *returns*, but parts of the front,

and a flatly tower in the midst of the front. *Bacon.*

RETURABLE. *adj.* Allowed to be reported back. A law

term.

It may be decided in that court, where the verdict is *re-*

turnable. *Hale.*

He shall have an attachment against the sheriff, directed to